



# Passing the Torch.....



“Freemasonry is an organization of like-minded men who accept a lifestyle based on a universal system of morality dedicated to the self-improvement of its members and thereby contributing to the building of a better community.”

**The Nova Scotia Freemason**

The Official Bulletin of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia

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V.W.Bro. Wayne Savory Managing Editor

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167 Coronation Avenue  
Halifax, NS, Canada B3N 2N2.

Please send written submissions as text files.

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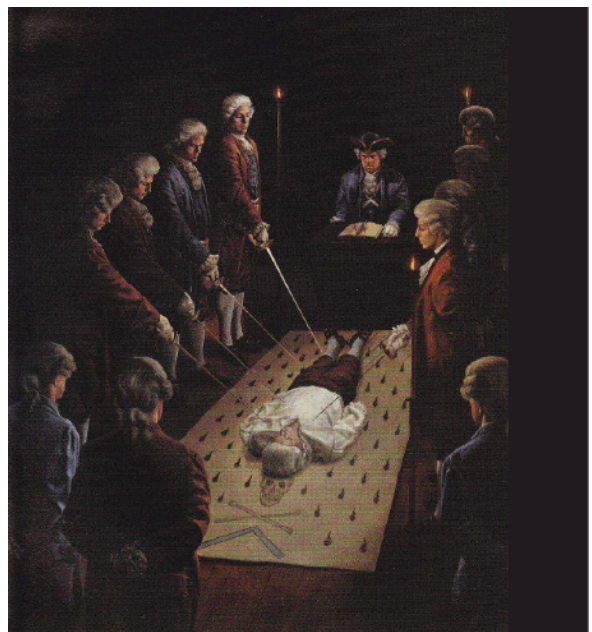
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**Deadline for next issue November 15th**

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## FROM THE EDITOR -PASSING THE TORCH



As this is the last edition of *the NSF* in my role as editor I have taken the liberty to hijack the Grandmaster's page (*look for his message on page 4*).

I am very pleased to announce that a new editor for *The Nova Scotia Freemason* has been found. V.W.Bro. Wayne Savory of St. Andrew's Lodge has volunteered to take over the duties of publishing our magazine. With a new hand on the helm I am sure we can look forward to some innovative changes as he settles into the position.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those that have contributed to *the NSF* over the past 14 years. Without the active participation of the masons of Nova Scotia keeping a bimonthly magazine going would have been a daunting task. The support of the various Grand Lines and Grand Lodge officers has been essential in its success. Hopefully the magazine will change with the changing needs of the Jurisdiction and reflect the future of Freemasonry in Nova Scotia. It is time for some new blood.

I enjoyed my role as editor and publisher for the printed version of the bulletin from '92 to '99 and can remember collating and bundling the issues on my kitchen table having coopted my wife as a "sub-editor". But I have had a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction in developing and putting out the electronic version for the past 14 years. I have seen *the NSF* develop from a soberly printed black and white bulletin to a full colour product in which I believe the masons of Nova Scotia can be justly proud.

I am pleased to pass the magazine into capable hands and thank-you again to all those masons who have contributed articles and photographs in the past. I look forward to reading more enlightening and entertaining material in the coming years and hope that everyone will continue to support the magazine.

Here is brief background on our new editor:

V.W. Bro. Wayne Savory is now retired following a global career in technology management and business consulting. Initiated,

passed, and raised in The Victory Lodge 547 in Markham, Ontario in the early 90s, he served as the Master of his lodge three times before moving internationally. In the late 90s, he relocated to Spain, where he affiliated and became the Master of Emulation Madrid Lodge 67 in Madrid, serving as Master for two years. He also held roles as the Grand Pursuivant of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Castille and the Grand Inspector for Training in the Grand Lodge of Spain.

Returning to Toronto in the mid-2000s, he affiliated with Antiquity Lodge 571. In 2010, Wayne moved to Halifax on a consulting engagement and in 2022, affiliated with St. Andrew's Lodge No. 1, where he now serves as the Senior Deacon. He has also affiliated with Virgin Lodge No. 3, practicing his native English Emulation ritual. Although a Royal Arch Mason, Knight of Malta, and Royal Ark Mariner in Spain, he has dedicated his time to Craft Lodge Masonry since returning to Canada. In September 2024, Grand Master Andrew Beeler appointed Wayne as a Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.

Besides being the new editor of *the Nova Scotia Freemason*, Wayne is currently building a replacement for the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia website, hoping to integrate public and private masonic communications across the jurisdiction.

*Fraternally*  
Barry S. Imber  
PGM, Editor (retired)





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 THE GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE:
 

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Does your lodge do this, ...


In my address at Grand Lodge I read out portions of an article published in the NS Grand Communication proceedings in 1963. Since back then you had to be a Past Master of a lodge to attend it means that today you would have to be 90 years old to have been present when it was delivered. Some members have asked for a copy or a more complete list, so I will try and give you a list, not complete as there is always room for improvement:

Does your lodge, ....

Building

- 1) have its own building presence in the neighbourhood.
- 2) have a clean appearance, painted, repaired and no damage.
- 3) have signage that identifies itself, with contact information
- 4) have entry accessibility for inclusion
- 5) have washroom and kitchen facilities
- 6) have the space for meetings and preparation work as well as social area
- 7) meet the current building codes

Meetings

- 1) meet regularly on a usual night
- 2) meet monthly for advisory board meetings (settle issues and make meetings more harmonious)
- 3) have education as a part of every meeting (not just history)
- 4) meet on the lowest degree to include your new EA and FC members
- 5) promote to the public, your community type events in local papers or internet
- 6) host awards nights which are open to the family (where lodge is not opened)
- 7) invite other lodges to join for social events either open or just members
- 8) hold education nights or emergent meeting for lodge practice
- 9) hold open community days for the public to visit and ask questions
- 10) invite the Grand Master or District Deputy Grand Master to attend your special nights or presentations

Communication

- 1) communicate digitally to its membership
- 2) have a website, listing your history, event photos, charitable work done with contact info
- 3) send minutes out digitally to avoid long meetings in lodge
- 4) send its notice out 5+ days in advance to the members and lodges in the surrounding districts
- 5) include a monthly news bulletin or update to the members
- 6) connected on social media to its members or public page
- 7) connected with FB messenger or other instant talk group
- 8) send out the NSFreeMason to all its members and contribute articles



Social

- 1) meet socially on a monthly or bi-monthly basis for the members or family
- 2) host events through out the year that include the family or public
- 3) connect through virtual communication on a daily weekly basis.
- 4) meet casually for coffee or a meal on a monthly or bi-monthly basis

Charitable

- 1) participate in the Bursary program with the Masonic Foundation
- 2) participate in the Shared funding program with the Masonic Foundation
- 3) participate in the Administrative funds program with the Masonic Foundation
- 4) know about the Benevolence program with the Masonic Foundation
- 5) do assistance programs or endeavours in your community
- 6) promote the charity with pictures and articles in the local newspapers or websites

District

- 1) have the Master, Wardens and 10% of its members at every district meeting
- 2) include the Master, Wardens making at least 5 members attending the district association meetings
- 3) make two official visits a month to lodges in and around your district
- 4) invite lodges to participate in your special meetings or social events
- 5) assist other lodges with degree work or do joint degree nights

Fraternal relations

- 1) visit the widows of members and remember them at Christmas, Birthdays, Mothers day, Valentines day and report the same back to the lodge
- 2) visit the sick and infirm members and remember them at Christmas, Birthday, Father`s day and report the same back to the lodge
- 3) make two official visits a month to lodges in and around your district
- 4) invite lodges to participate in your special meetings or social events
- 5) assist other lodges with degree work or do joint degree nights
- 6) have an official visiting team to include your new EA, FC, MM in travelling to other lodges

Education

- 1) hold interesting and informative education pieces that keep members attention.
- 2) hold education game nights like Masonic Jeopardy, liars club, etc... inviting other lodges to participate
- 3) hold education pieces that are not always about history
- 4) hold education pieces from subject matter outside of Masonry
- 5) promote new member MM doing small portions or degree work (ie. Working tools, lambskin, or apron presentation)

Mentorship

- 1) use the Hiram mentorship program in your lodge
- 2) use the Bob Walker books as a part of mentorship in your lodge

- 3) use the mentorship lectures from Grand Lodge through the degree process for new members
- 4) assign a mentor to the new EA for up to 2 years after he becomes a MM to help continue his Masonic growth
- 5) include new EA, FC, and MM in all social events
- 6) encourage new MM to attend advisory board and district association meetings
- 7) give out the new NS Masonic Visiting book to your new MM

#### Programming

- 1) have a yearly program written down that is follows on a monthly basis
- 2) plan out, at its advisory board meetings, the upcoming events 1, 3, 6, 12, 24 months out in advance.

Total of 60 points of reference.

I know there is more that could be added. But if your lodge is not checking 90% of these boxes, you probably have issues and room for improvement. This is not meant to overwhelm you, but maybe give you some ideas to help your lodge grow.

*Andrew Beeler*  
GM



### **NOTICE**

The Most Worshipful the Grand Master of Masons in Nova Scotia, Most Worshipful Brother Andrew Beeler would like to advise all Masons in the Province that he will be in the Grand Lodge Office at 167 Coronation Avenue in Halifax during business hours (8:30am - 3:00pm) on Mondays and Wednesdays, weather permitting and Holidays excepted.

If any member would like to meet with the Grand Master to discuss ideas or issues please contact this office to book and confirm an available time slot. The Grand Master looks forward to meeting with any interested or concerned Brother.

# Wentworth Lodge #108



*75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration*

*George Grant - Grand Master Banquet*

Saturday October 12<sup>th</sup> 6 PM

The Buffalo Club  
625 Cow Bay Road,  
Eastern Shore



**\$35 per ticket Brothers & Guests**



Menu Options  
Turkey Dinner  
Roast Pork Dinner

Evening Entertainment  
the Amazing Sidewinder Band



For Tickets Contact  
Quentin Hardy [qjhardy@hotmail.com](mailto:qjhardy@hotmail.com)  
Mike Blackburn [mjbburn@gmail.com](mailto:mjbburn@gmail.com)



KENTVILLE LODGE FIRE

On Tuesday September 24th a fire broke out in the block that houses Kentville Lodge hall.

The fire was at The Purple Peacock on Aberdeen Street. Smoke could be seen billowing around Main Street just before noon on Tuesday. The Purple Peacock, a volunteer charity shop located in the block, stated that all their volunteers were evacuated safely. Fire Chief Scott Hamilton said the fire broke out in the commercial building and no injuries were reported.

The lodge room and dining hall suffered damage from water and smoke. The building will be unusable for some time and will remain locked by the Fire Marshal until he has finished his investigation. It will take a few days before damage to the Lodge can be assessed.





## Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons  
167 Coronation Ave.  
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, B3N 2N2  
**Andrew Scott Beeler**  
Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Nova Scotia

"Freemasonry is an organization of like-minded men who accept a life style based on a universal system of morality dedicated to the self-improvement of its members and thereby contributing to the building of a better community."

### "Prepare for Success"

The vision of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia is to provide a solid foundation for the Advancement of Freemasonry through strong leadership, education and fellowship.

To the Brethren of Kentville Lodge No. 58,

The Most Worshipful the Grand Master of Masons in Nova Scotia, Most Worshipful Brother Andrew Beeler wishes to offer his sincerest condolences and heartfelt prayers in relation to the recent fire that occurred at the Kentville Masonic building on Aberdeen St. in Kentville.

This is a sad and unfortunate event. The Grand Lodge is encouraged that no one was injured and that the Lodge building appears to be in reasonable shape. Thanks go out to the first responders for dealing with the fire, building, and community.

The Grand Lodge offers condolences to Kentville Lodge and we hope the insurance and repair process will go forward smoothly.

Brothers, please reach out and let us know how we can help in this difficult time. We hope that surrounding Lodges or Districts will join together in assisting the meeting schedule for the Lodge and Concordant bodies during the required repair time.

Fraternally and Sincerely;

John Dollimount  
Grand Secretary  
Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia

Office of the Grand Secretary: M. W. Bro. John R. Dollimount



## FROM THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

Brethren,

As we now continue our Masonic journey many of our Lodges continue to face the issue of declining membership and lack of attendance.

As food for thought, I do wish to share this article, supplied to me by a brother, as it might assist us in getting Brethren to attend and participate in our

Lodges. This is not to suggest that we need to reinvent the wheel, but by doing what our founding Brothers had envisioned.

Paraphrased from "Eight Steps to Excellence: The Observant Lodge" by WBro. Andrew Hammer, PM Alba Lodge No 222 - 2011

The idea of "observant" Masonry is becoming more popular, and many Masons are wondering what an observant Lodge is and how they can make their own Lodges more observant. This document gives eight basic steps to help create an observant Lodge. These steps follow the rules from Anderson's Constitutions of the Free-Masons (a key document from 1723) and historical Masonic practices in North America. These ideas are not new to our Grand Lodges or their histories. Whether these steps work or not depends on the members of each Lodge.

First, let's explain what "observant" means. Observant Masonry means following the original goals of speculative Masonry. The founders did not want to just create a social club or service group. Although some members have tried to change its purpose, that was never the founders' intent.

The founders wanted to create a group that encouraged men to be their best, act with dignity, and have serious discussions about life and self-improvement. This means creating a space for these experiences and behaving in a way that reflects our highest ideals.

Observant Masons believe that by following the history and original goals of Masonry, that they

will have the best Masonic experience. They want to do things properly and aim for excellence in all of their Masonic work.

The eight steps here have been very successful in improving the experience of Freemasonry for both new and old members. They act as a quality control system for any Lodge. When followed, they help members feel proud of their work and who they have become, which matches the founders' goals.

1. **Guard the West Gate:** This is the most important step because the quality of our group depends on who we let in. Not every man should be a Mason, and not every Mason fits in every Lodge. Members have the right and duty to set standards for their Lodge and ask important questions to those who want to join. Lodges should take time to get to know potential members and not just accept anyone who shows interest. Members who recommend someone should know them well and be willing to mentor them. This is a key responsibility for all members. Don't ask another member to mentor someone for you. If you're not willing to give your time to a new member, you can't expect your Lodge to do so.
2. **Be Proficient in Masonic Ritual and Law:** It's important for an observant Lodge to know what they are doing and why. This means being well-versed in the rituals and laws of Masonry. Masonry is about order, not chaos. To maintain order and harmony with the Grand Lodge, members must learn and follow the rules. An observant Lodge aims to be exemplary, not rebellious.
3. **Commit to Advancing Members Through the Degrees:** Progressing through the degrees requires time and effort from both the candidate and the mentor. Some form of proficiency, like learning lessons or giving presentations, should be required before a member can advance. If a member isn't willing to try, maybe they shouldn't be a Mason. The same goes for the mentor, who must not take shortcuts in teaching.





4. **Choose Officers Based on Merit:** Officers should be chosen because they are the best for the job, not just because they are next in line. This idea is supported by the Book of Constitution. A progressive line (where the next person automatically moves up) should only be used if the person is ready and trusted to do the job well. Mistakes can happen, but they are less likely if we only advance people who are prepared.
5. **Dress Your Best for Lodge:** How you dress shows how much you value the Lodge and its members. In most Lodges, wearing a dark suit and tie is the minimum requirement. This makes Masonic meetings feel special and important. Dressing well also helps create a sense of dignity.
6. **Provide Quality Meetings and Be Willing to Pay for Them:** Lodge dues should be set at a level that supports quality experiences. Good meals and proper festive boards are essential. These gatherings help build true brotherhood and are an important part of Lodge meetings. A Lodge should value itself and its members by providing quality experiences, not excess, but true quality.
7. **Bring Back a Sense of Awe to Our Ceremonies:** We should reintroduce elements that create a special, thoughtful atmosphere in our lodges, like music, lighting effects, the Chamber of Reflection, and the Chain of Union. The preparation room should feel special, not just like a dressing room. Music and other sensory experiences have always been part of our ceremonies and help make them unique. Using these elements honors our traditions and enhances the experience.
8. **Include Masonic Education in Every Meeting:** Education is at the heart of Freemasonry. Every Lodge meeting should include some form of Masonic education, whether it's learning about the degrees or discussing the lessons of the Craft. Even a short talk on a symbolic tool is better than a meeting focused only on administrative tasks. An observant Lodge values education and

seeks to provide knowledge in every meeting. Without education, a Lodge cannot truly be observant.

*Fraternally,*  
*Frank Gammell*  
DGM

FROM THE SENIOR GRAND WARDEN



MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR  
DEPARTED BRETHREN

Brethren, in my travels I have seen many variations of the solemn and important part of our Masonic lives. The ritual for this can be found in our Ritual Books in Appendix G on pages 191 and 192.

Further to that it can be found in a publication from the Board of General Purposes approved in and dated 2013. If you do not have this document please consult the Grand Lecturer. This document is complete with the rubrics which give a better understanding of the complete service. I urge you all, especially lodge officers, to seek out this information and formularize yourselves with it.

I have truly enjoyed and benefited from my travels to the various Lodges and I look forward to my visits in 2024 and 2025. Installation season fast approaches and I am looking forward to accompanying the Most Worshipful the Grand Master as much as I can.

For those who attend Lodge on a regular basis I say "Thank you"! If you know of brethren that do not attend Lodge please gently encourage them to accompany you to Lodge so they can enjoy the wonders of Lodge life and the fellowship found therein.

As Roy Rogers used to say "Happy trails until we meet again".

*Sincerely and Fraternally,*  
*Gerald Settle*  
SGW

## FROM THE JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN



I have been having a wonderful time so far in my travels, seeing familiar faces and making new acquaintances is a testament to the enduring power of Freemasonry. When we think of Freemasonry, we think of brotherhood, camaraderie which are the foundations upon which we build a better world.

But it's more than that. It's the learned feeling of satisfaction through philanthropy and empathy, whether it's knowing you're helping provide breakfast for a hungry child at school or driving a widow to bingo. It's a feeling of community, near and far. It's the satisfaction of knowing that our efforts, whether large or small make a difference in the lives of others which give us a profound source of fulfillment. The Kentville Lodge fire serves as a stark reminder of the challenges we may face, but it also highlights the unwavering support and unity we find within our lodges.

And it's a love of our heritage, rich in rituals, buildings, and regalia, which is a testament to the generations of Masons who have come before us. It is a source of inspiration and a reminder of our commitment to preserving the traditions and values of our fraternity. But mainly, it is the feeling of being welcomed, no matter our ethnicity, religion or occupation.

My Masonic journey has been full of welcoming brothers – friends, and for this I've been grateful. As we continue our Masonic journey together, let us strive to uphold the principles of brotherhood, philanthropy and heritage. May our lodges be places of inspiration, support, and growth.

*Fraternally,*  
Ken Simmons  
JGW

### Famous Canadian Freemason

**Alexander Robert Dunn (15 September 1833 – 25 January 1868):** was the first Canadian recipient of Victoria Cross. At 6'3", Dunn sitting on a horse was an impressive figure. Born in York (later Toronto) in September of 1833, he attended Upper Canada College. At the age of 19, he purchased a commission in the 11th Hussars. Although he had a reputation as a strong disciplinarian, he was popular and respected by the men serving under him.

On October 25, 1854, in the Crimean War, Dunn led his men into "The Valley of Death" flanked by slopes on either side heavily defended by Russian troops and artillery. On that fateful day, 156 men were killed or listed as missing, 134 were wounded and 14 prisoners were taken. Of Dunn's regiment of 110 cavalymen, only 25 survived, two of whom had Dunn to thank.

While retiring from the scene, Dunn saw that Sergeant Robert Bentley from his troop was wrestling with his horse, which had been severely wounded, and the Russians had singled him out as a straggler. Three of them concentrated their efforts to knock him out of his saddle and were preparing to finish him off. Seeing his predicament, Dunn wheeled around and galloped through a maze of dead and dying, as well as rider-less horses charging about in all directions to rescue him. Prancing, side-wheeling, rearing his thoroughbred, he parried, thrust and slashed at the assailants, felling them all in a matter of minutes. But Bentley was still in dire straights, desperately hanging on to his horse by one of the stirrups. Dunn dismounted, lifted Bentley back into his own saddle, then belted the horse on the rump to send it galloping towards the British lines. On foot, Dunn suddenly caught sight of Private Harvey Levett from his troop who had lost his mount and was in danger of being cut down by a Russian Hussar. Dunn rushed to his aid and skewered the enemy with his giant-sized sabre. For his bravery, Alexander Robert Dunn was awarded the Victoria Cross, Canada's first.





## OUR PAST GRAND MASTERS



**Most Worshipful Brother  
William Marshall Black**

**Grand Master 1909 – 1911**

**December, 1866 – May 16, 1917 Lodge:  
St. John's Lodge #2**

M. W. Bro. William Marshall Black belonged to St. John's Lodge No. 2, where he was Senior Warden, 1897-98 and Master in 1898-99. He does not seem to have held any office in Grand Lodge prior to his election as Grand Master in 1909. He was in office when the Nova Scotia Freemasons' Home was dedicated. He died in 1917. For a number of years he was a resident of Wolfville and was not an infrequent visitor at St. George's Lodge No. 20.



**Basic Masonic Etiquette : Why  
do we do it?**

**I. WALKING BETWEEN THE ALTAR AND THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER:** Brethren do not pass between the Altar and the East when the lodge is open.

Why? As a courtesy to the Master, it is necessary that the three Great Lights which shine their eternal light and wisdom upon the Master to help him govern the lodge should never be in shadow, not even for a millisecond, during the processes of an initiation or degree work.

**2. SITTING IN THE EAST:** Brethren do not take a seat in the East without an invitation... even if all other seats are full.

Why? While all Brethren within a tiled room are equal to one another, and the officers are servants of the brethren, all lodge officers have worked and studied long and hard for their lodge. It is, therefore, the Master's prerogative to recognize this devotion and their loyalty by inviting distinguished visitors or a special member whom the Master wishes to honor to sit with him in the East. In other words, if you were in church, synagogue or mosque and the pews were full, would you go up and sit beside the Pastor, Rabbi or Imam (Muslim Priest)?

**3. ALWAYS FULLY DRESSED:** Brethren do not enter their Lodge room either without their apron nor while putting on that apron...not even the tying of its strings.

Why? In respect to the formalities of their Lodge, officers expect that the Brethren will have the courtesy to enter it fully dressed and ready for the labor. They should not have to wait for a member to be fully "dressed", even just tying or adjusting their apron, to salute that member. It is expected that you will be properly and entirely dressed when you pass by the Tiler and enter your lodge room.



## FROM THE GRAND LECTURER

**Masonic Rules of Order No.2**

Continuing with the discussion of Masonic Rules of Order from the last issue this time we will look at the subject of the question. Masonic lodges have their own rules however some of the structure of traditional Roberts rules of order are followed. One of the first areas of confusion is what exactly is the question, the question is what the Lodge will be voting on from a motion, an example would be “I Brother Logan move that the Lodge spend \$500.00 to have the altar refinished.” When we break this down the question is “that the Lodge spend \$500.00 to have the altar refinished.” So, you can see from the motion the question is formed and unless amended during debate will be the exact wording the Worshipful Master will say when the lodge is to vote. Sometimes the Worshipful may ask the Secretary to read the question from his notes which should have the exact wording of the motion in the case of a long motion and question.

Let's now look at the different types of motions and the Three classes of questions that may arise. The first is when a debatable question is immediately pending. The second when an undebatable question is immediately pending and, the Third is when no question is pending. When this is the case the Worshipful Master in assigning the floor, should be guided by the following principles of debate.

**A Debatable Question Immediately Pending,**

- i. the brother whose motion pending debate was brought before the lodge and is entitled to be recognized as having the floor even though another has risen first to address the Worshipful Master. The brother who moved the question (motion) is entitled to preference and recognition of speaking to the question first if he has not already done so.

2. In the case of a committee's report the Brother who submits the report is given preference by the Worshipful Master in speaking to the report first, if he has not done so.
3. When the question is taken from the table it is the Brother who moves to take the question from the table has preference to first speak to the question.
4. in case of motion to reconsider the Brother that has moved to reconsider has the preference and who is not automatically the Brother who calls up the motion.

A brother that already had the floor in a debate on the immediately pending question is again entitled to the floor for debate on the same question. As the interest of the lodge are best served by allowing the floor to alternate between those, for or opposed to a motion the Worshipful Master when he knows which side of the question is taken by each speaker should give the preference to the one opposed to the last speaker. This however should fall within questions determined by the above principles.

**An Undebatable Question that is Immediately Pending**

The next one will look at is an undebatable question that is immediately pending. When the immediately pending question is undebatable its mover has no preference to the floor an example would be “I Brother Logan move that the Lodge be called to Refreshment” (a Masonic Lodge is never called to recess) This motion is an undebatable motion and can only be amended as to the length of time for refreshment, it can also only be made when no business “question” is before the Lodge.

**When no question is pending.**

Lastly we will examine when no question is pending. When one or a series of motions has been disposed of, and there is no question actually pending, the next motion or series has

the right of way. The Worshipful Master should recognize the brother who introduced the series to make the next motion, even if another has risen first and has addressed the Worshipful Master. No other main motion is in order until the lodge has disposed of the series of motions.

A motion to lay on the table properly used is designed to lay aside a question temporarily to attend to some more urgent business. Therefore, if a question is laid on the table the one who has moved to lay it on the table, immediately claims the floor and is entitled to introduce the urgent business even though another Brother may have risen first.

When the rules are suspended to enable a motion to be made, the mover of the motion to suspend the rules is entitled to the floor to make motion for which the rules were suspended, even though another rose first

when a brother moves to reconsider a vote pretty announced purpose of amending the motion if the vote is reconsidered, he must be recognised in preference to others in order to move his amendment.

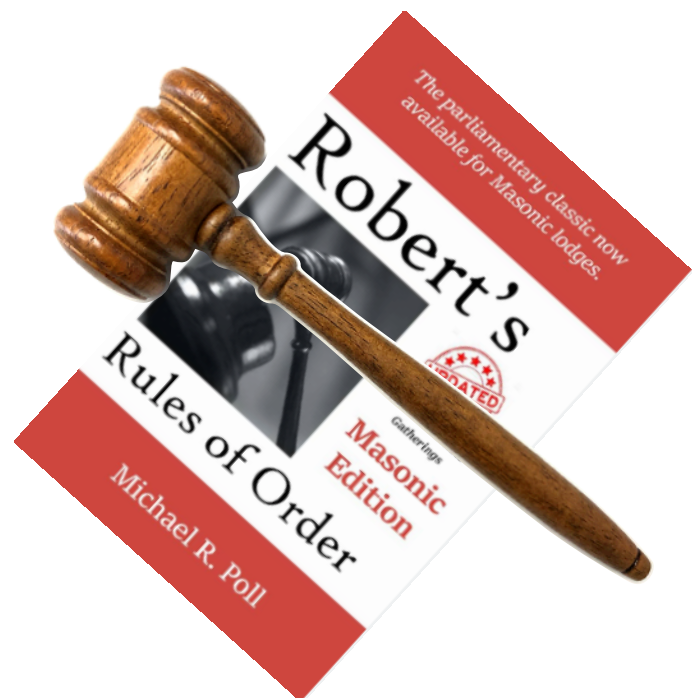
If no question is pending and no series of motions has been started that has not been disposed of a brother who rises to move to reconsider a vote, or to call up the motion to reconsider that has been previously made, or to take a question from the table when it is in order he is entitled to the floor in preference to any Brethren that may have risen before him to introduce a main motion. This is provided that when the Brother rises before him on rising he states the purpose for which he rises. Members rising to make above most mentioned motions come into competition they have the preference in the order in which these motions have just been given; the first is to reconsider and last to take from the table. When a motion to appoint a committee for certain purpose or to refer a subject to a committee has been adopted

no new subject except a privileged motion can be introduced. This is until the lodge has decided all the relative related questions, as to the number of members on the committee and as to how it shall be appointed, and as to any instructions which are to be given to it. In this case the one who made the motion to appoint a committee or refer the subject to a committee has no preference, in recognition if he had wished to make other motions. He should have included them all in his first motion.

Clear as mud? Well as we continue to explore Roberts Rules of Order Masonic Edition some of the parliamentary language will be come clearer and we will gain more understanding into this vast subject.

**Reference:** Poll, M. R. (2021). Art.I. In *Roberts Rules of Order Masonic Edition* (Sixth, pp. 3-5). Cornerstone Books.

*James Logan*  
GL



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**DO YOU KNOW YOURSELF TO BE A MASON?**

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When that question was asked of you during the work of the First Degree, did it register as being of great importance? To most candidates it doesn't. Usually it appears to be just a question that occurs in the process of instruction, and the answer seems to be very simple. In statement it is simple, of course, but as the student of Masonry progresses, he discovers that even the simplest of thoughts in Masonry have deep meanings attached to them. Very little occurs in the work of the Craft that is of small significance.

All of us have noted certain Brethren in our own and in other Lodges who seem particularly apt to learn and express themselves Masonically. These men are sure to be found at the head of Lodge activities. They are moving spirits. They know the work and they know how to get things done. Moreover, they appear to be eager to advance in the interest of their Lodges. They think up things to do, or rather observe things that need doing. Sometimes their energy even grates a little on other Brethren. Once in a while criticism may be heard, the burden of which is likely to be that these Brethren are a trifle too ambitious.

One knows himself to be a Mason when he begins to view truth, honour, justice, and charity not as abstract principles, but as practical everyday virtues which he must practice and exemplify in all of its relationships with his fellowmen. When within him burns an intense desire to protect and advance the welfare of his Brethren and with a constant care, that no harm or injury comes to them through acts of his, a man may know he is developing the Masonic spirit.

Such a thing may occur once in a while to be sure, but not often. As a rule the active Brother is one who knows he is a Mason, why he is one, and how he got that way. To such a Brother the question of how he knows he is a Mason is a sort of challenge. He knows very well the simple answer in the ritual isn't all of it by any means. It is only the beginning. He knows the ceremony whereby he was brought to light was merely the lighting of the lamp. By it he was able to enter the Lodge, to greet the Brethren Masonically, but so far as actual work was concerned he was verily an

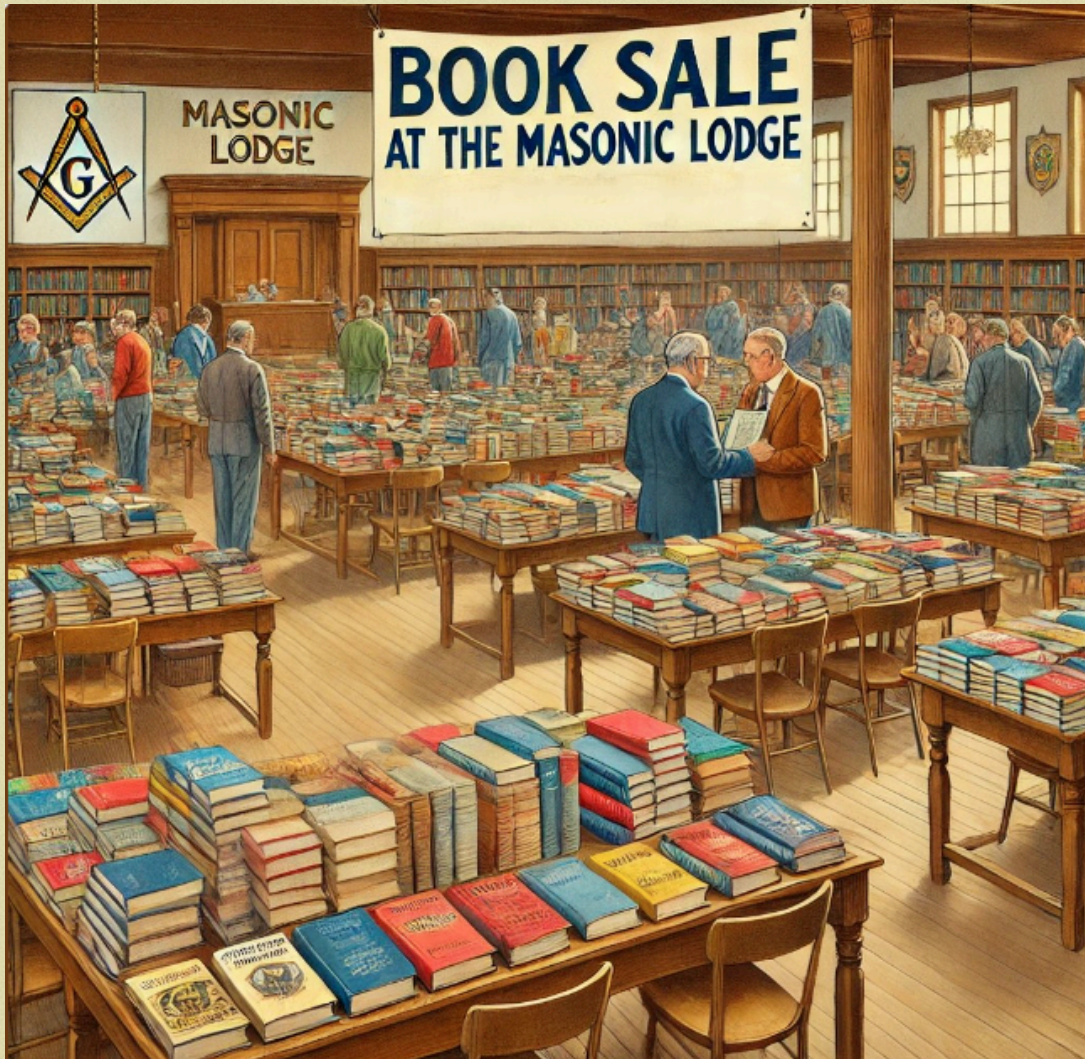
Entered Apprentice. The light illuminated his own character and revealed to him obligations owing to his fellowmen. It was then he began to understand knowing a few of the secrets of the Craft is now what makes him a Mason. It is true that many good men feel these same things without being Masons. But any understanding Mason knows such men would accomplish more and find greater joy in their service, if added to their natural goodwill, they had the encouragement, fellowship, and inspiration of a great Fraternity wholly dedicated to the same high aspirations.

You know yourself to be a Mason first by understanding the eternal principles upon which the Craft is founded and then upon feeling in your own heart a clear response to their call. When, gradually, the new Brother learns of the glorious history of the Fraternity and begins to feel kinship with the legions who went this way before him; when in the events of the past he is able to discern the fine handcraft of brothers and fellows, tracing out their beneficent influence in the progress of mankind; then he knows himself to be a Mason in spirit and in truth.

The place to look for evidence that you are a Mason is not in the head, where memory of rituals, grips, signs, and tokens may be retained, but in the heart from whence will flow the healing streams of brotherly love, generosity, kindness, patience, and goodwill. If those are found you will know your Masonic fellowship has borne good fruit and you are in fact a Mason.

*Author Unknown*





Looking for your next great read? **Come to the Masonic Lodge in Elmsdale** on the first Saturday of every month for our amazing Book Sale!

Over 80,000 books to choose from!

No book over \$1.00 - unbeatable prices!

Children receive a **FREE** book just for visiting!

All proceeds support the Masonic Lodge and the important Not-For-Profit work we do in the community. Don't miss this chance to grab some incredible reads and support a great cause!

**Date:** First Saturday of Every Month

**Time:** 8:00am - 2:00pm

**Location:** 170 Highway 214, Masonic Lodge, Elmsdale

See you there!

~~THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE~~ The constantly search for reasons why our meetings are so sparsely attended and why so many of our members simply drop out due to lack of interest after they receive the degrees, I am becoming more and more convinced that the listless attitude of most of our investigating committee is the primary cause. I wonder how many lodges in the jurisdiction consider it a formality and not a necessity. I have checked on a few by asking candidates if anyone called on them prior to their conferral and the answer was invariably in the negative. Here, perhaps, is the weakest link in the entire Masonic chain. After a petition for the degrees in Masonry is received, the first test the candidate must pass is the inquiry of the Investigating Committee. Approved by this committee, only an unfavourable ballot will prevent his initiation into the lodge. Once in, about all that will get him out is non-payment of dues. Expulsion is very rare. Having taken him the lodge is stuck with him. Obviously, therefore, the responsibility of the Investigating Committee is grave indeed, and in the proper discharge of this duty, the skill of a biographer, the integrity of a saint and the wisdom of a judge are required. Because of this, members selected to serve on this Committee should be chosen with care. Preferably they should be brethren little, if at all, acquainted with the petitioner, to avoid any possibility of bias - consciously or unconsciously exerted.

Some investigations amount to little more than looking to see who recommended the petitioner. If the names of active or prominent members are on the petition, a Past Master or two perhaps, or maybe personal friends of one or more of the investigators, the inclination is to end the investigation right there. If those brethren know the man and approve him, why check further?

One reason is this: many a petition gets before a lodge simply because the recommending brothers lacked the courage, tact or loyalty to risk offending a friend or acquaintance by refusing to sign his petition. They reason that this unpleasant duty can be avoided by passing the responsibility to the Investigating Committee and subsequently to the lodge, where rejection can be made anonymously. Such procedure is unmasonic, but it

does happen and many an undesirable member gets in through that back door. It is also true that, in spite of a strict injunction to use great care in recommending applicants, many among us hesitate little at signing almost any petition. If some brother whom we know asks us to sign a petition for him, too often we do it without any real consideration of what is involved. This again is unmasonic and puts a real burden on the committee chosen to investigate the petitioner.

Knowing these faults and facts, how should an Investigating Committee function? Some of the information is more or less routine and easily gathered. The vital question the investigating committee must be able to answer is: Is he worthy and well qualified? This is where the real investigating comes in and is where failure is most often found. It is not necessary to enquire how much money a man has in the bank or how much insurance he carries. His signed petition declares he is able to meet his obligation as a member.

The question: "Is he worthy and well qualified?" must be answered in the affirmative before the candidate can proceed further. This means he must possess both the character and reputation meriting acceptance by the Craft and will form the basis of Masonic life. Character is not created overnight. It is the distilled essence of a man's reaction to the life forces that affect him. Its formation begins at birth - or even before - if we accept the principle of heredity. What it is when he applies for the degrees of Masonry has been determined largely by its past development and this, in turn, will determine to some extent his progress in Masonry. Therefore, complete but diligent inquiry should be made covering an adequate period of the petitioner's past.

Frequent visits to the petitioner in his home are omitted entirely and this is one of the gravest mistakes made by an investigating committee. Additional inquiries will develop what his reputation is and has been. Skillful interviews with the man himself in his home will go far to reveal what he actually is and thinks. Much can be learned by observation alone. Attempted discussion of Masonry would be pointless since he



knows nothing of it. But adroitly managed discussion of subjects with which masonry is concerned, such as neighborliness, duty, faithfulness to obligations, charity, education and self-control, will bring out the required facts. When all that has been learned is assembled, the investigator who has served honestly will know whether or not the petitioner is worthy and well-qualified. And to discover what is the high and vital duty of each and every brother appointed on such a committee.

*John Robinson, Grand Master  
Published in THE TRACING BOARD, GRS;  
November and December, 1977.*

## Community Breakfast



### Second Saturday of the Month

\*excludes July & August

**Location:** Valley Lodge No. 90 A.F. & A.M.  
110 Mill Street Berwick  
7:30 am – 10:30 am

**Menu:** Eggs (fried or scrambled)  
Bacon and Sausage  
Pancakes  
Toast  
Tea, Coffee, and Juice



Adults: \$12.00  
Children: \$6.00



Grand Lodge  
Communications  
Committee



### Volunteer Skills Needed:

- Graphic Design (Adobe, Canva etc.)
- Search Engine Optimisation (SEO)
- Inbound Marketing
- Internal Communications Strategy
- Brand Strategy & Management
- Public Relations
- Digital Marketing Campaigns
- Google Workspace
- Social Media Engagement

Email W. B. Giles Crouch at:

[communications@nsmasons.ca](mailto:communications@nsmasons.ca)



IN AND AROUND THE JURISDICTION

*The Duke of Kent Lodge and Bedford Lodge Masonic picnic - Aug 11, 2024. There were over 80 people attending. The day was fantastic. Good weather and good eats. Enjoyed by all. Our Goal for 2025 is to have over 100 people.*





*ANNUAL MASONIC EXCHANGE AUG 3 2024*

*Once again John Albro Lodge 122 and Rising Sun Lodge 39 celebrate our annual Masonic Exchange. This great event began 2005. This year the brothers of John Albro (along with brethren from other lodges) made the trip down to Nashua, New Hampshire to visit the brethren of Rising Sun Lodge. As usual this event was well attended by brothers from both sides of the boarder. Ans also, as usual, the brothers of Rising Sun Lodge out did themselves. This was not two lodges meeting; this was two families celebrating a family reunion. This was the best example of fellowship. This is Masonry at it's best.*









*St. Andrew's Lodge members at the Ionic Lodge Quarry Degree*



*Bro. Stephen Happe with his CNIB panel for the Maritime Command Museum. The Grand Master and several Cornwallis Brethren attended.*



*RWBro. John Cameron (District Deputy Grand Master - DDGM) appointed Gerald Norman to the position of District Grand Director of Ceremonies (DGDC) and Rob MacKenzie to District Grand Chaplain (DGC) at the John Albro Lodge September meeting.*




**February 28- March 1**


# 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Provincial Masonic Broom & Gavel

at the Mayflower Curling Club in Halifax

All funds raised during the Broom & Gavel will be used to support Feed Nova Scotia

Registration fee and information coming soon

To pre-register or for more information contact  
Tom Rogers  
Phone 902-456-4895  
email tomprogers1@gmail.com



**100**

*The Jimmy Flynn Show Live!*

Uniacke and District Fire Department  
Saturday October 26, 2024 Door open 7:00pm Show 8:00pm  
Presented by Uniacke and District Fire Department and the Uniacke Masonic Lodge  
Intermission Auction  
**\$20.00 Each** (Advance Tickets) **\$25.00 Each** (At the door) **19** + OVER

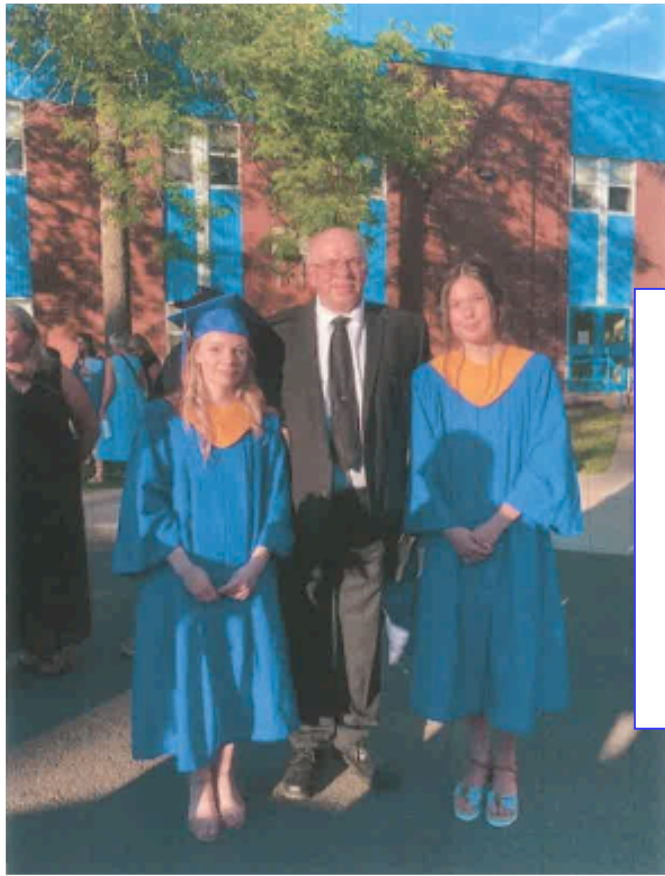
*Come on out and support Uniacke Lodge No.128 for a great fundraiser! Some great auction items too, generator, power saws, leaf blowers. Don't miss out! Limited tickets*





*John Albro Lodge No.122 Summer picnic. A great time was had by all!*





*A Thank-You from a bursary student attending Dalhousie University to Ionic Lodge No.73. Left: Oceane Hubert; RWBro. Serge Dehobenko, WM Ionic No.73; Tomita Tamami Poitier*

I wanted to take a moment to express my gratitude for awarding me this scholarship. Your generosity and support means a lot to me. This scholarship will without a doubt make a significant difference in my academic journey! I am incredibly thankful for your kindness and support. Thankyou for believing in me.

warm regards,  
Océane Hubert



**RWBro. Robin C Lawrie  
Poyntz Lodge No 44.**

*May it be their portion to hear those words  
"Well done, thou good and faithful servant"*